

The
Pasadena
Citizen



07-24-2014

La Porte police urges seniors to protect themselves against fraud

By Y.C. OROZCO

La Porte police are encouraging its senior citizens to take precautionary measures in an effort to protect themselves against fraud.

According to the department, incidences involving scams, manipulative sales tactics and 'hi-tech manipulation' directed at seniors have become easier with evolving technology.

The department has released a list that provides ways to help avoid those traps.

Checks via mail can be a target for theft or loss, so instead the department encourages older residents to use bank services: by deposit through an account via automatic deposit.

Utility bills can also be more protected by setting up an automatic format, based on either a fixed or specific amount.

Those seniors with disabilities can contact the city of La Porte or one of the various Harris County services that provide transportation for grocery or retail trips.

The La Porte Neighborhood Center, located at 526 Sam Jacinto St., provides meals and activities related to wellness.

Police urge older residents to always be alert to the various forms of fraud: IRS tax return and payment claims, gimmicks involving home repairs, little or no-money down offers, telephone/internet fraud tricks, claims of improved healthcare, and medical equipment fraud.

For more crime prevention tips, please contact the La Porte Police Department at 281-471-3183, or visit the agency's website at www.laportetx.gov/police/support/division_information.asp. Additionally, the City of La Porte's Senior Services Center provides a wide-variety of services and activities. They can be reached at 281-470-9897, or by visiting www.ci.la-porte.tx.us/gov/parks/seniors/default.asp